

BATTLE POINT CEMETERY

OTTAWA COUNTY



The Battle Point Cemetery was used by Ottawa people during the period from approximately 1800 to 1850. Today, the cemetery site is partly open meadow and partly woodlot, and there are no grave markers or other surface indications that the cemetery is there. It continues to be a sacred place to Ottawa people, and it is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. For decades, riverbank erosion exposed burials from time to time, and the gravesites were often vandalized. After years of collaboration between the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Michigan Historical Center, Grand Valley State University, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and Timberland RC&D, a riverbank stabilization project was completed in November 2001, ending the cycle of erosion and vandalism, and restoring the dignity of the cemetery.

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